CONSTELLATION

A publication of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District Volume 26, Number 4 April 2000

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Nanticoke Creek, possible model for future studies

by Doug Garman

Baltimore District recently began a one-year study to examine the feasibility and potential methods for cleaning up the Nanticoke Creek watershed, severely degraded by years of acid mine drainage.

As part of the Susquehanna River Basin

and located in the heart of eastern Pennsylvania's anthracite coal region, the Nanticoke watershed covers about five square miles in the state's Luzerne County and includes Nanticoke

Creek, Leuder Creek and Espy Run.

District and local experts identified causes of the contamination during a preliminary review of the watershed last year. They determined that fractures in the streambeds allow clean surface water to enter underground mine tunnels where it mixes with remnant coal and waste from past mining activities

allowing chemical reactions to occur. The result is iron laden water being discharged back into Nanticoke Creek.

"Poor water quality and dry creek bed have effectively destroyed aquatic life in the watershed," said Greg Nielson, Baltimore District project manager for the Nanticoke study. the acid mine drainage problem.

According to Nielson, the recommended plan for this cleanup effort could cost as much as \$7 million and would be one of the largest acid mine drainage

tion report in February

2001. This report will rec-

ommend the best method

for eliminating or treating

abatement projects undertaken by the Corps.

"Acid mine drainage from abandoned coal mine tunnels is the single greatest threat to the quality of our water in northeastern Pennsylvania," said



Settling ponds similar to this one may be used to treat water contaminated by acid mine drainage in the Nanticoke Creek.

"Possible remedies we're looking at include sealing the streambeds or diverting groundwater to reduce the infiltration of water into the mine pools and then treating any residual contaminated water with wetlands or settling ponds," added Nielson.

Working closely with the study's non-federal sponsor, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Corps will complete an ecosystem restoraU.S. Rep. Paul E. Kanjorski. He added that this project would serve as a

first step in a model for cleaning up the whole anthracite region.

The Nanticoke Creek study is one project of a large effort by several Pennsylvania congressmen to secure funding for a comprehensive cleanup of recognized environmental problems in the eastern coal region over the next 30 years.

CONSTELLATION

April 2000



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District

http:// www.nab.usace.army.mil

Constellation is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-81 and published monthly by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Md. 21203-1715. Telephone: (410) 962-2809; fax: (410) 962-3660. It is printed on recyclable paper; press run 2,200. All manuscripts submitted are subject to editing and rewriting. Material from this publication may be reproduced without permission. Views/opinions are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

District Engineer Col. Bruce A. Berwick

Public Affairs Chief Lucy Lather



State of the District

by Col. Bruce Berwick Commander & District Engineer

I'd like to reflect on where we've been and where we're going in this month's column. Over the past several months we've enjoyed some remarkable accomplishments. Among these is the outstanding job our District team did to support our troops in Kosovo. Their hard work and "can do" spirit have made a real difference in the lives of our men and women serving overseas.

Here at home, we saw the completion of the first phase of Poplar Island, significant strides in the construction of the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project, the completion of ARL's Physical Science Lab, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, National War College's Roosevelt Hall, Korean War Veterans Memorial and the Drake Chemical Superfund project.

We've also enjoyed success for the second year in a row by meeting the challenge of ensuring that the District of Columbia schools opened on time.

Elsewhere, we celebrated the start of construction on the Little Falls Fish Passage and its early completion in January, the restoration of Kingman Lake, renovation of space for the pending Corps Headquarters move to the General Accounting Office building, the start of several environmental restoration projects in Pennsylvania and many, many other projects.

As great as our past achievements have been, we cannot rest on our laurels.

In the months ahead, we face some challenging hurdles. We must complete our objective evaluation of the dredged material placement alternatives for the Port of Baltimore. Scheduled for public release in July, this evaluation will most certainly attract public attention.

Our efforts to investigate for remnants of past defense activities in the Spring Valley neighborhood continue to present our team with interesting challenges. The Corps Headquarters move, Wyoming Valley, Fort McNair Chapel and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge are just a few of the many challenging District projects that await us.

The level of success we enjoy in these projects will depend greatly on how well we interact and communicate with our many customers.

A short time ago, I tasked our District leadership to take a hard look at realigning our organization in order to make us more responsive to our customers. The result of this effort is Project Management 2000. Designed to strengthen our overall business process and increase customer satisfaction, it is just one of the many possible ways to improve our relationships with our customers. I encourage others.

To help us gauge our effectiveness in meeting our customer's needs, I've asked our District leaders to continue to closely monitor key performance indicators that we've developed over the past several years. These measurement tools will clearly show us where we are doing well and where there is room for improvement. We know from our past that we must remain responsive, flexible and receptive to change. Our customers expect us to deliver nothing short of a first-class product that is on-time and within budget.

I believe that by working together, as we've done so successfully in the past, and by understanding our mission and the needs of our customers, we'll meet our goals and find sound, workable solutions to any challenge that should come our way.

Essavons.

Planning studies Pa. community to determine feasibility of possible flood protection project

by Doug Garman

he town of Bloomsburg, Pa., like many other communities along the Susquehanna River, has seen firsthand what can happen when the river and the tributaries that feed into it top their banks.

According to town officials, in the past 24 years, the Bloomsburg community has experienced 11 flood events causing damages to more than 400 homes and several major commercial properties. But now, the flooding issue is getting a closer look by federal and state agencies that can help.

As part of a comprehensive feasibility study, Baltimore District, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the town of Bloomsburg, will gather additional data, evaluate possible solutions and make a recommendation on the best course of action to take to minimize future flooding problems.

"Among the possible actions we're looking at in this study is the construction of a flood wall and levee, dredging the bottom of the river, re-

moving islands in the river, flood-proofing homes, relocating residents; and there is the possibility that the study will conclude that no action is justified at this time," said Stacey Underwood, Baltimore District study team leader.

"An important part of this study is to determine if it is economically feasible to construct a flood protection project in Bloomsburg," she said.

In order for the

federal government to participate in the costshared construction of a flood protection project, the economic benefits of building a project must be equal to or greater than the costs of constructing a project.

n January, Corps officials met with a group of local residents to discuss the potential for geotechnical drilling on their properties. A month later, officials held the first of what will be a series of



Corps representatives speak with the Bloomsburg community at a public meeting where they explained the study.

public meetings to discuss the progress of the feasibility study.

"Local interest in the outcome of the study is very high," said Underwood. "Over 300 people attended our first meeting."

The federal government and the nonfederal sponsors are equally sharing the cost of the \$2.1 million study.

"Our current schedule calls for us completing a final feasibility study in June 2002," added Underwood.

"Following our study, if a project is recommended, it would then need to be designed and then constructed."

April's courtesy employee rises to challenges

by Mary Beth Thompson

When Beth DeSorbo and her husband, Anthony, left home last summer for an Alaskan cruise, they were blissfully unaware of the travel challenges that awaited them. Their plane left Baltimore later than scheduled, and so they missed all their connections.

They reached their destination, ruffled, but in time to board the ship before it sailed. Unfortunately, their luggage had not made the same journey. The DeSorbos were assured their baggage would catch up with them. It did. Well, one suitcase did. The bag that held their shoes was delivered to them onboard.

With footwear to spare, they departed on the 10-day cruise with the clothes that had been on their backs when they left Baltimore. The DeSorbos augmented their thin wardrobe with sweatshirts purchased at their ports-of-call and became known as "those people who wear the same clothes every day."

A negative experience like that would have ruined the trip for many people. Some would not even have boarded the ship



Beth DeSorbo

without their specially purchased vacation clothing. Beth DeSorbo, though, refused to let the lack of a wardrobe get in the way of her enjoyment of the cruise vacation.

The incident illustrates the character of DeSorbo, who was selected as the District's April Courtesy Employee of the Month.

"Beth thrives on challenges and always performs beyond what is expected of her," said her supervisor, Ed Palguta, chief, Civil Programs Management Branch, Programs and Projects Management Division.

"Courtesy is just being polite and receptive to people," said

DeSorbo. It's clear she takes that posture another step and looks to assist in any way she can.

It may have been with her own travel trials in mind that DeSorbo recently helped a panicked employee who called her from the airport. The traveler's plane was about to depart, and she had no ticket. Within minutes, the resourceful DeSorbo had prepared the necessary paperwork and arranged for the ticket. The traveler made the flight and her scheduled meeting.

"Exceptional organizational skills and providing service with a smile are second nature to Beth," Palguta said.

The smile that goes with the service she gives is also characteristic of DeSorbo. She believes that a smile puts more courtesy and civility into everyday life and that people should smile more.

"I like to think that a positive attitude rubs off on the person I'm dealing with," she said. "It makes for a better day."

With that outlook, it's not surprising that DeSorbo takes negatives and turns them into positives for herself and others.

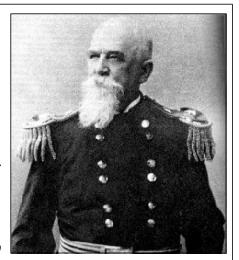
Baltimore District history quiz

Select the caption that correctly describes this photograph.

- a. A male model displaying the correct U.S. Army officer's uniform from the post-Civil-War era.
- b. A family photo of the great-great-grandfather of Maj. Edward R. Fleming.
- c. Official photo of Capt. Chris Kringle taken while attending the annual National Guard Christmas Ball at the North Pole, circa 1850.
- d. Baltimore District Engineer William P. Craighill, who arrived as a major in 1865, left in 1895 to become a brigadier general and Chief of Engineers, and who is credited with profoundly shaping Baltimore Harbor.

Need a lifeline? Call PAO, 2-4088.

(Photo from the National Archives)



Work at Raystown Lake helps the Bay

by Cori Brown

From the air, they look like ribbons of green paralleling the edges of rivers and streams. On the ground, they are teaming with wildlife and vegetation. They filter runoff, reduce nutrient pollution, moderate stream temperatures and stabilize stream banks. "They" are riparian forest buffer zones and they are critical to the "circulatory" system of the Chesapeake Bay.

Areas around the lake and tributary streams oftentimes have been altered and are void of their natural forest vegetation. Over the last several years the Raystown Lake staff have worked diligently to restore these zones.

Using a variety of techniques, from shoreline plantings to natural growth of previously mowed areas, the staff began restoration efforts in high-impact recreation areas. Using rip-rap, gabion baskets and willow plantings, staff members and volunteers have protected areas susceptible to shoreline erosion. Work in these highly visible areas shows the public how important and valuable these buffers are in reducing erosion and loss of land, not to mention the improved scenic quality of the shoreline.

"The volunteer groups saw a federal agency actually changing the land use for the benefit of the



Volunteers and Raystown Lake staff plant vegetation to help the ecostructure of the Chesapeake Bay. Throughout the year, local schools and conservation groups spend time working at different areas around the lake. The collaborative effort is a great opportunity to educate the public about the importance of riparian forest buffer zones.

environment," said Raystown Lake biologist Jeff Krause. "They saw restoration at work and realized that it's relatively easy with a little effort and a little manpower."

Old fallow fields proved to be another important opportunity to improve the quality of the zones. Several old fields have been planted with numerous species of trees such as ash, willow, spruce, alder and walnut. The plantings increased vegetative diversity and provided wildlife with cover and food.

Sometimes tree plantings have unexpected results, too. In one boat launch area, geese became a real problem because they were attracted to the grassy areas for food and nesting. The introduction of the trees changed all that.

"Our nuisance geese problem has been virtually eliminated

now," said Krause.

Previously mowed areas were also targeted for change. By reducing the number of mowed areas on the project, the staff has encouraged a natural succession of shrubs and trees. Much like the fallow fields, eventually these shrubs and trees will offer food and cover to wildlife while protecting the land from loss of valuable soil.

"We're very progressive here at Raystown," said Krause. "We are going to do plantings every year."

These methods of protection, in concert with other best management practices, have restored three miles of riparian forest buffer since 1997.
Raystown's ambitious plans include restoration of another 15 miles over the next 10 years.

District honors employees at annual awards ceremony

After a brief introduction by Acting Deputy District Engineer for Civil Works Maj. Edward R. Fleming, employees with 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of federal service came to the stage at the Baltimore Convention Center March 22 to receive a certificate, pin and recognition from the District Engineer and their fellow employees.

The next group to receive rec-



Col. Bruce Berwick presents Marilyn Nine with her pin and certificate for 45 years of service with the government.

ognition were the nominees to the Federal Executive Board, a program that recognizes federal employees who make a difference in their respective agencies.

Thirteen employees in 12 categories will compete with hundreds of federal employees from other agencies in the Baltimore area for the silver and gold awards presented at the annual

F.E.B. luncheon in May.

Sixteen employees received Army Achievement Medals for Civilian Service and Commander's Awards. One employee received a Superior Civilian Service Award.

There were three inductees into the District's Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees. This program honors retired or deceased employees who have given distinguished service to the District and the Corps.

For the first time at an awards ceremony District Engineer Col. Bruce

Berwick recognized teams for nine projects in which a major phase was finished in 1999 and that focused on team skills.

After verbal recognition of several employees who had received prestigious awards earlier in the year, Berwick talked to employees about the District's work during 1999 and his vision for the future. He closed his remarks by thanking the team that deployed overseas this past year, and showing a slide presentation that District Photographer Susanne Bledsoe prepared after her return from Kosovo, showing the more human side of the Kosovo experience.

Berwick then turned the program over to Lt. Col. Patrick Guinnane, deputy district engineer, who commanded the Kosovo team. As he read a citation and the names of the individual team members, pictures of their work were shown to the audience. Each team member stood to be recognized

The program concluded with a drawing for the Harvest for the Hungry program.

Originally scheduled for Jan. 20, the ceremony was postponed due to a snowstorm.

Length of Service

30 years
Clinton L. Anuszewski, EN
Robert Bethea, WA
Lloyd C. Caldwell Jr., CO
Patrick H. Dockery, LM
Louis H. Galloway, WA
John F. Hanigan, WA
Paul L. Matthews, LM
Marie D. Nowak, RE
Gerald M. Pollis, PP
Virginia S. Schoen, CO

Raymond H. Schweiger, RE Richard A. Sealover, EN James M. Supinger, Jr., WA Clayton M. Turner, CO Dennis E. Webb, EN Bernard E. White, WA Joseph W. Zacot, OP

35 years Ronald A. Cucina, OP Michael D. Dickey, CO Donald W. Kamphaus, EN G. Wayne Parker, IM Rudolf R. Walter III, IM

40 years
James P. Thornton, CO
E. Ross Wise, CO

45 years Marilyn Y. Nine, PP

Federal Executive Board Nominees

Outstanding Supervisor Grades 13 & Above Susan K. Lewis, RE

Outstanding Supervisor, Trades & Crafts Lorenzo R. Hylton, WA

Outstanding Professional (Technical, Scientific & Program Spt) Michael W. Stello, EN

Outstanding Professional (Administrative, Management & Specialist)

Maria de la Torre, PL

Outstanding Para-Professional (Technical, Scientific & Program Spt)

Clyde C. Jeffers, OP

Outstanding Para-Professional (Administrative, Management & Spec) Heidi L. Vause, EN

> Outstanding Clerical Lisa Biehl, OP

Outstanding Trades & Crafts
William R. Welsh, OP

Equal Employment Opportunity
Service

Christina Correale

Heroism

Joseph Huber, OP Thomas Donahue, OP

Community Service
Margaret B. Martin, EN

Distinguished Public Service Career
Harold L. Nelson

Rookie of the Year (Professional)
Steven A. Kopecky, PL

Special Honorary Awards

Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service Edward G. Cox, CO Adrian Corts, OP Nyles L. Falatek, CO Steve Golder, OP Deborah A. Nizer, OP Patrick K. Sampsel, CO Rolando A. Sanidad, CO Theodore J. Schorr, CO Michael W. Stello, EN Gregory Williams, DCPS

Commander's Award for Civilian Service George A. Bielen, OP Lacy E. Evans, OP Douglas M. Garman, PA Michael W. Pfarr, CO Stanley J. Snarski, OP Donald P. Snyder, OP Superior Civilian Service Award Ronald A. Cucina, OP

Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees Larry J. Lower John P. O'Hagan Irene B. Tackett

Team Awards
Fort McNair, Bldg. 61
District of Columbia Public Schools
Drake Chemical
DuPont Chambers Works Site
Korean War Veterans Memorial
Pentagon Renovation Program
Pentagon Swing Space
Poplar Island
Walter Reed Army Institute of
Research

Deployed Team Members

Kosovo

Clinton L. Anuszewski, EN Charles E. Basham, EN Susanne Bledsoe, IM Kenneth P. Boyette, CO Jeffrey Brenneman, EN Vesta Susan Cadieu, WA Lloyd C. Caldwell, CO Christopher J. Clayton, PP Richard W. Dean, II, CO Maria E. de la Torre, PL John Dunford, EN Debra Ann Ford, EN Sara L. Gracey, EN Lt. Col. Patrick Guinnane, EX Mark Harris, LM William K. Hettchen, CO David A. Hockenberry, CO Joseph V. Hollshwander, CO Robert C. Kneten, EN Benedict C. Kowalczyk, CO Ronald Maj, EN Lester C. Maurer, CO Gregory W. McCleaf, CO

James P. Moore, CO Ridgely M. Nelson, LM Carol A. Ohl, CO Daniel A. Oswald, EN Capt. Lee K. Snodgrass, PM Richard K. Spencer, OP

Germany

Andrew T. Carter, CO Gilbert Dent, CO Rodgers P. Hagert, Sr., CO Joseph Neil, CT Alan Roy, SA Henry Urban, CT

Other

Brian Glock, EN, Albania James Hourican, CO, Albania/Kosovo Antoine Plessy, EN, Albania Lt. Col. Gregory Stinner, EX, Bosnia Maj. Edward Fleming, EX, Germany Maj. Lewis Toms, WA, Germany

Leadership distinguishes Gallery inductees

Larry Lower spent 31 years in federal service, 27 with the Baltimore District, retiring in 1997.



After service

in the Peace Corps and the military, Lower joined the Corps in 1972 as a landscape architect in the Environmental Resources Branch of Planning Division. In 1975, he was selected as chief of the branch.

Under his stewardship, the branch grew rapidly from a staff of eight to more than 40. The mission diversified to include many disciplines such as archeologist, economist and geographer. The customer base grew as well with important missions, such as support to military projects and service to Department of Defense customers.

Lower was recognized as a leading force in the Corps' commitment to the Chesapeake Bay. His participation on numerous committees and leadership on many initiatives led to the Corps' recognition as a significant contributor to the Bay Program.

His most significant achievement involved a three dimensional model of the Bay developed under his leadership by the Corps' Waterways Experiment Station. The model evaluates strategies to be used to implement restoration of the Bay.

Lower's leadership capabilities also served him well in the LEAD, or Leadership, Education, and Development, program. He trained over 100 supervisors and senior employees in the District.

Irene Tackett's career in federal service spanned 39 years, 31 in Baltimore District, retiring in May 1995. Tackett served as the first full-time Equal Employment Opportunity Officer for the District. This was just one of many firsts for her. She was instrumental in reshaping the District culture and employment patterns. This is clearly demonstrated in the diverse workforce the District has today.

Tackett involved herself in many programs, where she proved to be a natural leader.

During the nation's Bicen-



tennial, she was instrumental in having the District provide scholarships to four minority stu-

dents. She also served in several advisory roles to the Baltimore City's public school system.

Both managers and employees sought out Tacket for her ability to foster open communication. She gave much of her own time "after hours" to listen to employee problems and complaints, whether personal or work related.

Tackett's significant knowledge base also afforded managers a source to turn to in resolving employee problems before they escalated.

Her innovative leadership, empathy and sincere approach to equal employment opportunity created a program second to none in the federal government. **John P. O'Hagan** spent 38 years in federal service, all in Baltimore District. He retired in 1997.

He began his career as chief, Navigation Section in Planning Division, where he supervised the preparation of the feasibility reports that led to the deepening of the Port of Baltimore's shipping channels to 50 feet.

In 1971, he became chief of Operations Division. With the enactment of several significant environmental laws, he was the first to



employ biologists and other ecology related personnel in Operations Division.

O'Hagan was instrumental in the development of innovative techniques for beneficial use of dredged materials, which continues today, and provides for engineering and environmental communities to work in concert to achieve the Corps' mission while protecting ecological resources.

During his leadership in Operations, the Port of Baltimore experienced its most significant navigation improvement.

During his tenure, he built a workforce from the ground up for the District's most important multipurpose reservoir projects. Through a 25-year period and countless flood events, all of the flood control projects performed flawlessly under his leadership.

Using his successful formula of integrating engineering with environmental sciences, O'Hagan significantly strengthened the Operations and Maintenance and Regulatory programs.

Prepare to take cover

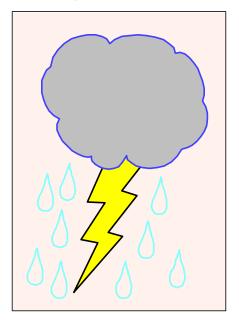
by Jennell Pruitt Safety & Occupational Health Office

Thunderstorms and their offspring—hurricanes, floods and tornadoes—are not as consistently lethal as those high-charged bolts from heaven, known as lightning.

Now that summer is approaching, the chance of thunderstorms with cloud-to-ground lightning increases, and the most dangerous period is from March through August, when air masses are unstable.

Most of these strikes occur in an open field environment. Frequently, victims have been under large trees, in water, on or near hilltops, in unprotected fields and often operating electrical equipment. Controls that can be used to reduce the hazards when caught in electrical storms include the following:

- Avoid hilltops, trees and watery areas.
- Drop metal tools or equipment. Don't retrieve them until after the storm passes.
 - Look for shelter in low places.
 - Drop to knees, bend for-



ward and put hands on knees. DO NOT lie flat or place hands on the ground.

- Indoors, avoid using appliances, power tools, telephones, computers and electric typewriters. Also, avoid baths, open porches and balconies.
- Know first-aid procedures, especially CPR. Even mild exposure can cause unconsciousness or painful burns. Lightningstrike victims should be given immediate medical attention.

Nine out of 10 people struck by lightning survive the event. But nearly 25 percent of these survivors suffer long-term psychological or physiological trauma. The best defense against lightning is preparedness.

TIP: Beware of sheltering under tall trees during a storm. Lightning takes the shortest path and hits the highest object.

Caught on the Web

It's spring, and so thoughts naturally turn to indoor and outdoor improvement projects. The Internet can assist with information and resources. Following are web pages that may be of interest to District employees:

- For those who want to learn to hang wallpaper or detail a car's interior, there's a website that can help. Instructions for these and other useful home and family skills are available at www.learn2.com.
- Key in www.housenet.com to access a wide display of infor-

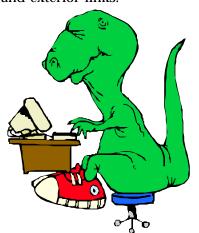
mation on home improvement, decorating, lawn and garden, real estate, shopping and sewing.

• For detailed home repair and improvement advice, the Better Homes and Garden magazine homepage has a link to its Home Improvement Encyclopedia at

www.bhglive.com/homeimp/docs. Click on buttons marked for plumbing, carpentry, masonry and concrete, decks, wiring and woodworking to access how-to information on each.

• Another source for in-depth

home upgrading information is www.todayshomeowner.com. It has a variety of home interior and exterior links.



District's quiz show reaps rewards for Harvest for the Hungry campaign

About 70 people witnessed the District's own version of the popular television show, *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*, March 10 in the City Crescent building cafeteria.

Contestants attempted to answer questions posed by emcee **Clint Anuszewski**, Engineering Division. Prizes were awarded according to the number of correct answers.

The competitors were: **Doug Kornriech**, Office of
Counsel; **Jim Hawk**,
Engineering; **Judy Foster**,
Small Business Administration; **Ben Weibel**,
Engineering; **Marilyn Nine**, Programs and
Projects Management
Division; and **Pete Maggitti**, Engineering.



Doug Kornriech (r) ponders a question from Clint Anuszewski. (Photo by Larry Mathena)

The contest raised about 200 food items and \$107 in cash for the annual Harvest for the Hungry campaign.

District names Raystown area Pizza Hut president as its volunteer of the year

Baltimore District has selected John Grenier, president of Allegheny Pizza Hut, Inc., as the winner of the District's 1999 Volunteer of the Year award. Grenier is recognized for his efforts in promoting water safety at the District's Raystown Lake Project in Hesston, Pa.

Greiner and his staff at Pizza Hut designed and printed an informative water safety brochure, which featured important water safety tips, a boater's safety checklist and a children's water safety quiz. Children who completed the quiz and returned it to a Pizza Hut in the Raystown Lake area received a free water safety coloring book.

It's estimated that more than 8,000 brochures were distrib-

uted in 1999. Brochures were also provided to each camper who visited one of Raystown's campgrounds.

The Volunteer of the Year award recognizes the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations that have volunteered to make the District's lakes and reservoirs a better place for all.

Speakers' Bureau Update

Bob Blama, an active Speakers' Bureau volunteer, spoke to the Parents Without Partners' Sailing and Power Boat Club in the District of Columbia on March 15.

The metro-area club is interested in boating on the Potomac and the Chesapeake. Blama, who works in Operations Division, gave a presentation on navigation dredging.

Jeff Trulick participated in Career Exploration Day at the Col. Richardson Middle School in Federalsburg, Md., March 23. Trulick met with students in groups of about 20 for several sessions.

He described his work as a biologist for the Corps, and the education requirements and salary range of such positions.

The school's Career Exploration Program is an effort to help its students make more informed career choices.

The District Speakers' Bureau received a note of thanks from MacArthur Middle School, Fort Meade, Md., for providing

several volunteers to judge their science fair in February.

District employees who offered their time and expertise to MacArthur's budding scientists and engineers are:

Mark Mendelsohn, Laura Jones, Phil Hager, Michele Bistany, Vaso Karanikolis, Cheryl Janiszewski and Jay Hershey of Planning; Greg Dietrich, Operations; Alan Andrysiak and Stephen Bosma, Construction; Maj. Ed Fleming, Executive Office; and Gloria Markovci, Engineering.

National Volunteer Week, 2000

"Celebrate Volunteers" is the theme for the 27th annual National Volunteer Week, April 9-15. National Volunteer Week began in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration of volunteerism.

Every president since has signed a proclamation promoting the week. Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and the National Network of Volunteer Centers, National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers.

From the earliest days of this nation's history, the spirit of volunteer service has been reflected in neighbors helping neighbors to overcome obstacles. For millions of Americans, volunteering is the key to healthy, fulfilling and meaningful lives.

Volunteering renews one's connection to community and builds self-worth and social

responsibility in children. Volunteering helps to learn compassion and tolerance, and inculcate a sense of duty to respond when people are in need.

Throughout the Army, soldiers and family members volunteer daily in response to the needs of the communities in which they live and work.

Since the frontier days, military and civilian personnel and their families have donated their time and skills to worthy causes.

The fruits of their generosity and spirit of communitymindedness are evident worldwide.

As National Volunteer Week is celebrated, remember President Clinton's words that it is important "to recognize and honor those who exemplify the type of extraordinary service that we should all work toward. We must encourage and support those who inspire caring and commitment in others."

Japanese delegation visits District

Jeff Werner (r), deputy chief, Construction Division, briefs a group of Japanese engineers, through their interpreter, on District projects and how the Corps performs construction inspection quality assurance. Chief of Construction Lloyd Caldwell and other Construction Division staff briefed the group on contract acquisition after Doug Garman, public affairs office, presented the command briefing. Fifteen construction professionals and an interpreter from Japan visited the District on March 15.

Happenings

Baltimore District 2000 Organization Day Picnic

June 16
Blob's Park
near Fort Meade

All employees and retirees are invited.

More information on tickets and activities will be distributed later.

Upcoming EAA events

The following events are open to employees, friends and retirees:

Christmas in New York – Dec. 3-4, \$200 a person. Bus transportation, motel, breakfast, ticket to Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall. \$50 a person deposit due by April 7.

Weekend in Nevada – Sept. 15-20, \$200 a person. Four nights at Harrah's Casino and Hotel. \$50 a person deposit is due by April 23. Call Paula Schultz at 410-962-4000 for more information.

Additional activities will be listed in future issues of the *Constellation*.



Department of the Army U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District P.O. Box 1715 Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

Official Business

